A FOOD THAT DOES AWAY WITH YOUTH!

Remarkable Discoveries About a Glands in the Brain That May Enable Science Rapidly to Turn Children Into Men, Chicks Into Chickens, Calves Into Cows to Sate War's Appetite for Meat and Men.

IN one of H. G. Wells's imaginative works, "The Food of the Gods," he conceived a magic food which made giants of men, animals and vegetables.

Even more remarkable is a scientific discovery just brought to light, the effect of which may be not only to supply food for the warring nations in a manner never before conceived, but may likewise furnish "made-to-order" men to fill up the decimated ranks of the contending armies!

In a word, this new scientific food eliminates youth; or, rather, hastens maturity. Food-animals born within the past few weeks, and which, in the ordinary course of events, would not be available as food for European soldiers for many months to come may, by the application of the new discovery, be made available within as many weeks.

While children who ordinarily would not be old enough to fight for their country for ten or fifteen years may, perhaps, be developed so expeditiously that they may take an active part in the war within a year or two, if the conflict lasts that long.

The food problem is, of course, one of the most baffling phases of the great conflict now raging in Europe. Either side may achieve victory after victory on the field of battle, but if the food supply for the soldiers at the front or the nation at large at home runs short, the triumphant nation will eventually have to sue for peace. An army is no more efficient than its commissariat, and a nation is only as formidable as its food supply.

For these reasons, it is believed in some quarters that the diminution of the food supply as a result of the presence at the front of millionsof men who are regularly engaged in farming and other food-supply pursuits will bring the war toan end more speedily than any succession of victories or defeats on the field of battle possibly could.

It must be kept in mind, too, that after several of the giant battles which are certain to be fought in the present war and in which the casualties will undoubtedly mount up into the millions have been waged there may be easily develop a lack of fighting-men to continue the struggle

In view of these considerations the scientific discovery above refered to, and which promises to augument the supply of food and men in a way hitherto conceived only in fiction, assumes a practical importance which it might not have attained in time of peace, although its possibilities from a scientific standpoint can hardly be overestimated.

The discovery is based on experiments conducted in connection with the little gland in the brain known as the pineal gland. This little organ which is sometimes referred to as a vestige of a "third eye' and is believed by some to be the seat of the soul is possessed of some very remarkable properties.

Science has long been engaged in trying to ascertain just what the functions of this organ, possessed alike by men and animals, were but nothing very definite was established until the last few months when Dr. Carey Pratt McCord, of Detroit, Mich., a well-known pathologist, announced to the American Medical Association the results of a series of experiments he had conducted upon chickens and guinea pigs, which revealed that science may shortly be able to elimiate the period of youth altogether in animals and men; or, in other words, to hasten maturity so as to give to a boy of ten or twelve the physical and mental properties of a man of twenty-one!

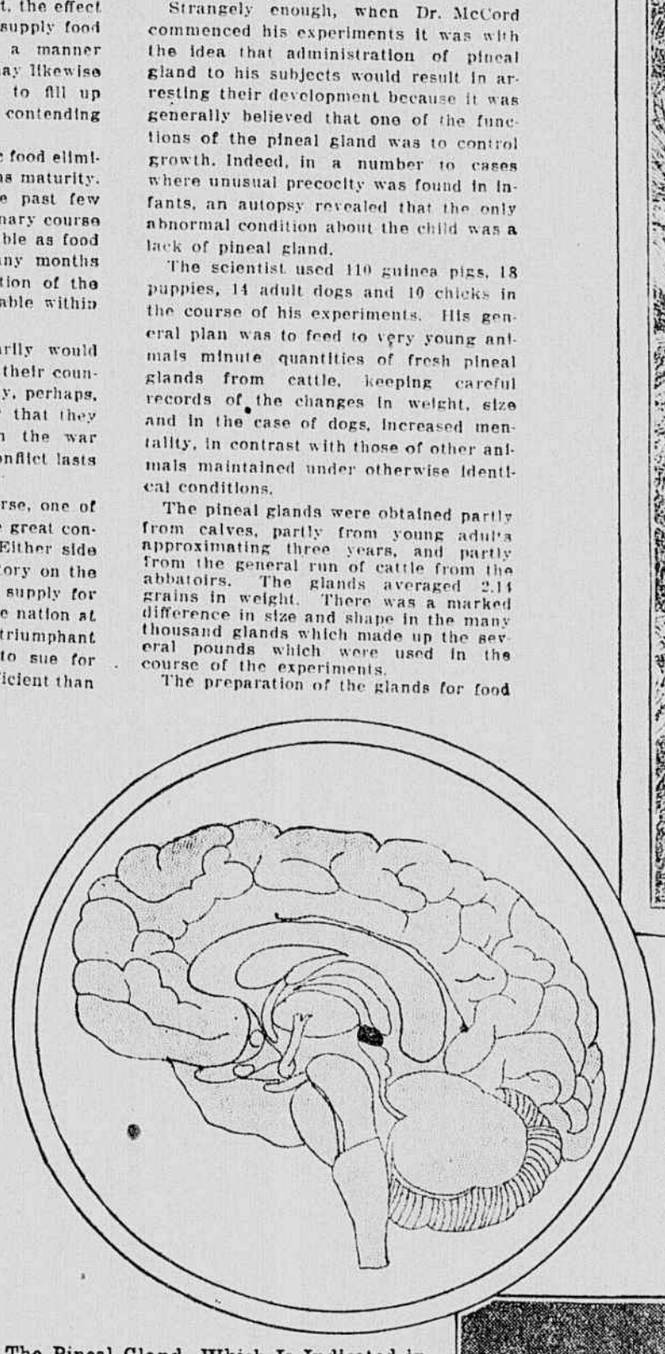
Such seeming miracles as these have actually been performed by Dr. McCord on chickens and guinea pigs, and although much still remains to be ascertained as to the possibilities of the pineal gland as a food for men as well as animals, there seems to be every reason to believe that its remarkable properties are universal in their effects.

Strangely enough, when Dr. McCord commenced his experiments it was with the idea that administration of pineal gland to his subjects would result in arresting their development because it was generally believed that one of the functions of the pineal gland was to control growth. Indeed, in a number to cases where unusual precocity was found in infants, an autopsy revealed that the only abnormal condition about the child was a lack of pineal gland.

The scientist used 110 guinea pigs, 18 puppies, 14 adult dogs and 10 chicks in the course of his experiments. His general plan was to feed to very young animals minute quantities of fresh pineal glands from cattle, keeping careful records of the changes in weight, size and in the case of dogs, increased mentality, in contrast with those of other animals maintained under otherwise identical conditions.

The pineal glands were obtained partly from calves, partly from young adults approximating three years, and partly from the general run of cattle from the abbatoirs. The glands averaged 2.14 grains in weight. There was a marked difference in size and shape in the many thousand glands which made up the several pounds which were used in the course of the experiments.

The preparation of the glands for food consisted in rinsing them free from blood, stripping them of adherent tissue and then grinding them to a fine paste without drying. The paste is mixed with sugar-milk in such quantity that ½ grain of milk-sugar represented 10 mg. pineal tissue. The mass was made into ½ grain tablets and quickly dried at room temperature.



The Pineal Gland, Which Is Indicated in the Above Picture of the Human Brain, Has Been Found to Develop Growth Almost Miraculously When Administered as a Food.

The first experiment, which was performed in anticipation that feeding would retard development, was begun on two chicks incubated in the laboratory. Beginning at the age of two days one was fed 10 miligrammes veal pineal tissue three times weekly, the other, used for comparison, was fed a blank tablet of milk sugar.

Here are the actual results obtained in this experiment: At the end of the third week the "pineal-fed" chick weighed 210 grams, the control chick, 92 grams; at the end of the sixth week, 557 grams, as against 286; at the end of the ninth week, 895 grams, as against 550, and at the end of the twelfth week, 925 grams, as against 700. In other words the pineal-fed chick at six weeks was very nearly as large as the control-chick at three months!

The striking disproportion in size and the marked skeleteal overgrowth making the large chick awkward in his movements, "declared Dr. McCord, "soon made these chicks a laboratory curiosity, but the small number and the different sex did not justify any inference as to the influence of the pineal feeding. The results, however, were so striking that at once work was instituted in a more extensive way."

"A lot of fifty guinea pigs in the second week of life was selected and divided into test and control groups. The test pigs were fed 10 milligrams veal pineal tissue. The controls were fed a ½ grain milk-sugar tablet. Other conditions for the two lots were identical."

Summarizing the results obtained from this experiment, it appears that the test-pigs were nearly as fully developed at seven weeks as the control-pigs were at ten weeks.

This excess of weight was a symmetrical overgrowth. There was some increased adipose tissue but it was generally distributed and not localized in any one region of the body.

Similar experiments were then conducted on a lot of fourteen chicks and eighteen pups, with equally satisfactory results. In the case of the dogs, particular attention was paid to mental development. The pineal-fed puppies were about a month ahead of the others. They were the first to learn to lap milk, the first to respond to a call and the first to be able to find their way back to the kennel.

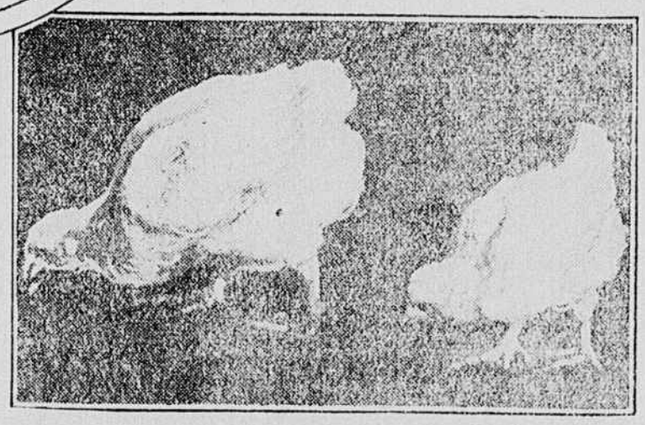
Another experiment was conducted on a group of 48 guinea pigs divided into test and control lots. There was an equal number of males and females in each lot, but the males and females were separated. The test-pigs were fed pineal gland when they were two weeks old, and the diet was continued for nine weeks. The males and females were then placed together in breeding pens. All except two of the pineal-fed pigs gave birth to young before the first of the control, the difference between the birth of young of the first pineal-fed pig and the first control pig being 14 days.

In still another experiment of the same character the development of the pineal-fed pigs was even more rapid.

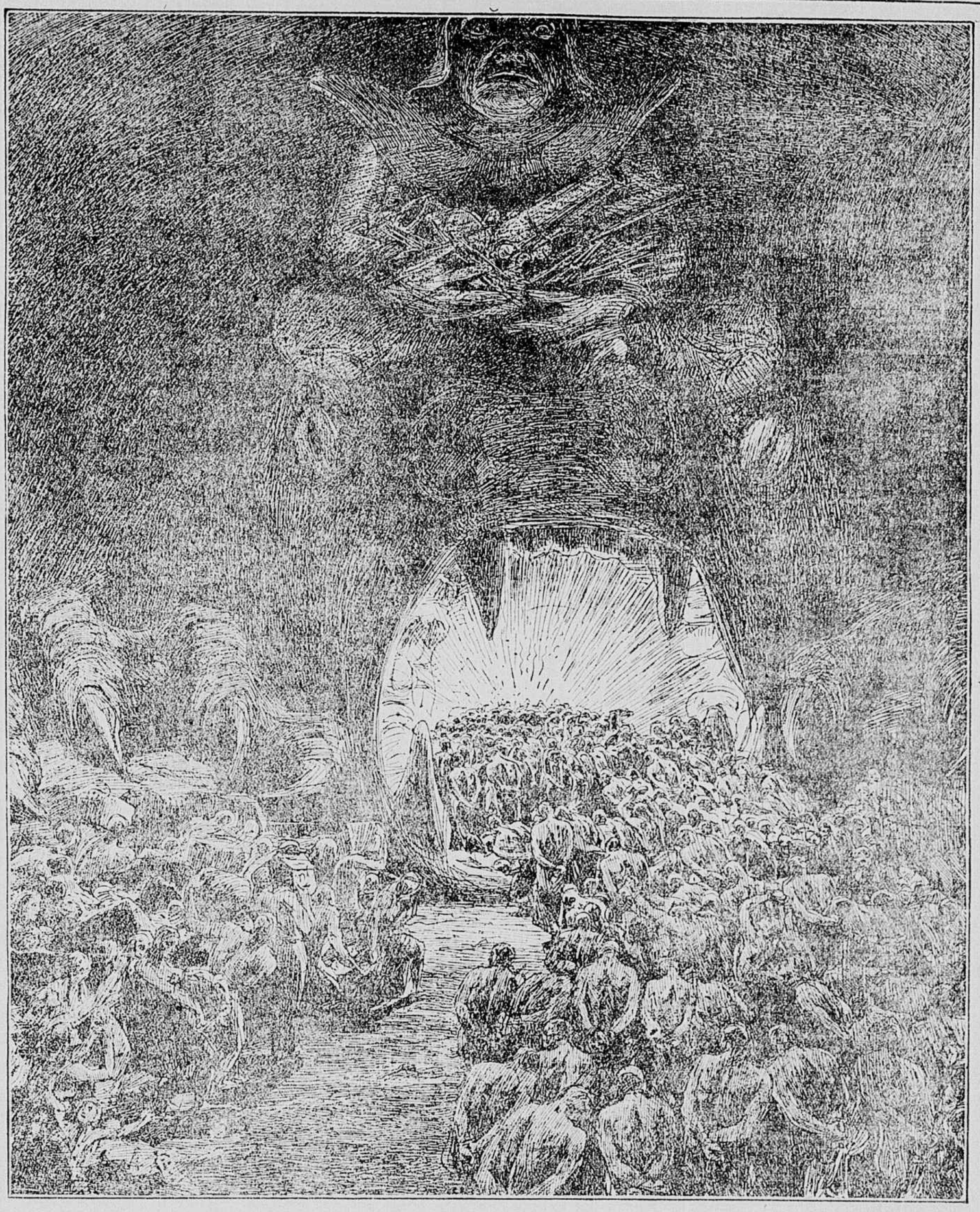
Dr. McCord concluded from these experiments that administration of "the minute quantities of pineal tissue from young animals to young animals stimulates rapid growth of the body, but not beyond normal size." Indication of precocity of mental development were also established.

These experiments are particularly significant because they are the first of their kind, and their full possibilities can only be conjectured at the present time.

As a practical solution of the food problem, even in their present stage, these experiments show that chickens and other food animals may be rapidly developed by the administration of pineal gland from other animals, and, while scientists will move slowly in applying similar treatment to human beings, there is no reason to doubt its efficacy.



Photograph of Two Chicks Each Three Weeks Old, the Larger One Having Been Fed on Pineal Gland, While the Smaller Was Maintained Under Identical Conditions, but Without the Pineal Gland Administrations.



The Extraordinary Vivid Picture of War by Emil Halarek, the Famous Hungarian Artist.

VICTIMS OF MOLOCH—Into the Open and Fiery Jaws of a Monster Representing War, Millions of Submissive Slaves Are Meekly Advancing, Accompanied by Ignorant Multitudes and Carrying the Produce of Their Labor.

Europe's War May Produce a Wagner

THAT one of the results of the great war now being waged in Europe may be the calling forth of a musical composer whose genius will rival Wagner's, is the belief of Alexander Russell, the well known American composer and organist.

"As regards the possible effect of the present upheaval on modern composition in general," says Mr. Russell, "I must say that I should not be surprised were it ultimately to prove for the best. With all the technical innovations of the past few decades a certain stagnation has been evident since Wagner.

"As it is with idividuals, so it is with nations—adversity stimulates certain deep spiritual elements that might otherwise lie dormant and which eventually take artistic shape and manifest themselves grandly and inspiringly. Composition has for some time been untinged with the profoundest, most vital issues.

"Perchance stirred to the surface, they are again to be greatly voiced. A disturbed period usually brings out the musical mouthpiece of its best ideals and impulses. The seething period of the French Revolution and its immediate consequences was followed by Beethoven; the great popular uprising of the early and middle nineteenth century were accompanied by Schumann, Chopin and Liszt. Wagner was not in any sense a product of the later part of that century, but a summary of all that had gone between it and the Franco-Prussian war.

"So that I should be in no sense surprised to see emerge out of the present war—if it be sufficiently protracted and deadly—the genius who will carry on the line of succession from Wagner."

Still another effect of the war, according to Mr. Russell, may be increased opportunities for American musicians.

"With this war in active progress," he says, "and the very plausible impossibility of foreign importations of artists or of new music, opportunity such as never before witnessed offers itself to our musicians. Their chance has come, it would seem, both to disclose their latent powers and to be judged more patiently and discriminatingly than ever before.

"If the handicap of prejudicial European competition can be held off for an appreciable space of time, and if the popular demand for music clamors eagerly for satisfaction—as undoubtedly it will—it seems fairly certain to me that our artists and composers must not only be welcomed by their countrymen with more fervor than has hitherto been the case, but, in the end, eagerly sought out by those very persons who formerly either derided their pretentions or distrusted their skill, without endeavoring seriously to acquaint themselves with their qualities. This, I should think, would be a propitious time to scour the field for undiscovered American talent. It may be needed next Winter should conditions prevent the return of the foreigners."